Geometry

Course Syllabus

2017 – 2018

Mr. Julian Salazar

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Tutorial 3:15 - 3:45, Monday through Thursday and by appointment

Let no one ignorant of geometry enter this door

- Entrance to Plato’s academy

**Course Info**

Math is about relationships. In geometry, we will study the properties of geometric objects – such as points, lines, angles, circles, and polygons – and the relationship between them in Euclidean space. We will study these objects in this context because we can use them in models that help us understand the world around us. We will work on developing basic mathematical skills, including:

* Problem solving – Apply knowledge and skills to understand and solve both simple and complex problems
* Pattern recognition – Notice and identify patterns within problems that allow us to solve similar problems
* Practical application – Translate our theoretical understanding into relevant and real-world situations

**Curriculum**

Our curriculum is aligned with the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics and culminates in the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC). You will be asked to take on challenging and meaningful problems that you *have not already been taught to solve* and work toward a creative solution. If this makes you uncomfortable at first, be open-minded. You will learn more, and you will develop skills and attitudes that can help you be successful in college and in the workplace.

We will cover eight topics:

1. Introduction to Geometry
2. Transformations
3. Angles and Triangles
4. Triangle Congruence and Polygons
5. Similarity
6. Trigonometry
7. Area and Volume
8. Circles

**Course Website**

Wiki Calendar – Go to <http://wlpcsupperschool.wikispaces.com> and find “Salazar” on the left-hand side.

**Upper School Tardy Policy**

If a student is late, without a valid excuse as determined by the teacher, to an individual class more than three (3) times a quarter, on the fourth (4th) time, he/she will automatically lose 5% from his/her quarter grade. If a student is then late another three (3) times, on the eighth (8th) time, he/she will lose another 5%.

**Method of Evaluation**

Semester Grade

Test – 45%

Quiz – 20%

Homework – 20%

Participation – 15%

Final Grade

Semester 1 – 40%

Semester 2 – 40%

Final Exam – 20%

The majority of your final grade will reflect how well you have mastered the content of this course, which is based on the Common Core High School Geometry standards.

Tests include multiple forms of demonstrating mastery, for example: traditional paper-and-pencil tests, group tests, individual and group presentations, and other select assignments. Large scale projects will be recorded as a test grade.

Quizzes reflect a student’s mastery of concepts from the past week or two weeks on classwork and homework assignments. Quizzes will be given with and without notice. Small scale projects will be recorded as quiz grades.

Homework will be assigned most nights and will be collected in class on the due date to check for completion and understanding. It possible to receive full credit on complete homework even if your answers are not all correct. “Complete homework” means that you have shown your work and you have a reasonable answer. If you are unable to reach a reasonable answer, write a short explanation of where you got stuck.

\*\* Occasionally we will complete a problem assigned for homework in class. You may write DIC (Done In Class) for the answer to these problems providing you were in class that day!

Homework is an opportunity to practice, not a demonstration of mastery. The practice provided by homework benefits you and helps you move toward mastering a concept. In order to do well on quizzes and tests, complete your homework everyday with a true effort. Ask questions and strive to understand when we review topics in class. If you are feeling stuck, come to tutorial or make an individual appointment!

Participation is a reflection of your activity within the classroom, just as your overall grade is a reflection of the level you have mastered the content. Positive participation will help you toward the goal of mastery. Negative or non-participation will veer you off course from that goal. Participation is worth **ten points a day**. Each of the following criteria is worth two points:

1. I complete my in-class assignments in a timely manner. (2)
2. I contribute positively to class discussion. (2)
3. I am awake and alert. (2)
4. I follow directions immediately. (2)
5. I raise my hand when I have an answer, question, or comment. (2)

**Re-take policy**

You may retake quizzes and correct homework below 75% for a new score two times OR as many times as necessary until you reach 85% or better. In order to re-take a quiz, you must come to tutorial once to review before retaking the quiz. This gives us an opportunity to work together to improve your understanding to ensure you improve your grade.

There will be no opportunities to re-take tests! Be sure to ask for help early if you need it and come prepared to do your best on test days! If you are unclear about the re-take policy or have any questions, please come see me so there is no confusion about your grades.

**Required materials**

* Course folder or binder where all geometry papers are kept together in an organized fashion
* Notebook paper and graph paper
* Black pen/Pencils and erasers (NO BLUE INK!!! I grade in blue!)
* Compasses and straightedges will be available in the classroom
* Calculators will also be available in the classroom, but may not be taken home!

**Content Resources**

* Check out geometry textbooks for explanations and practice
* Euclid’s *Elements* – <https://mathcs.clarku.edu/~djoyce/java/elements/toc.html> an online version of the ancient text that forms the foundation of geometry
* Khan academy – <https://www.khanacademy.org/math/geometry>
* Geogebra – free geometric construction software available for both Mac and PC. A modern alternative to compass and straightedge construction. Download available at <https://www.geogebra.org/download>

**WLPCS Homework/Project Policies**

*Daily homework*

The point of daily homework is to advance the student’s learning through independent practice and/or exploration. Homework and classwork are often intertwined and homework provides the catalyst for a day’s lesson. We will therefore not accept late homework; students who turn in completed homework on the day it is due (the degree of completion the province of the teacher) will receive full credit; students who fail to turn in homework in the day it is due will not receive any credit for that daily assignment. Individual teachers will grant expectations to this policy for illness, significant family events, or anything else the teacher deems worthy of exception.

*Long-term Projects*

Because we take seriously our responsibility to teach students how to manage their time and plan for a long-term project, we take a different approach with anything that requires more than one or two days to complete. Students who complete a long-term project on time are eligible to receive full credit; students who hand in a long-term project one day late can receive no better than a B, and students who turn in a long-term project two days late can receive no better than a C. At the end of the two-day period, teachers may decide to give students partial credit for work they have done on a project or they may decide to give that student a failing grade. Individual teachers will determine any exceptions for illness, significant family events, etc.

**Classroom Expectations**

* Be *punctual*
  + Be inside the classroom and ready to begin at the start of class (when the door closes!)
* Be *prepared*
  + Arrive to class with all your materials and completed assignments due that day.
* Be *polite*
  + Be respectful to yourself and your fellow classmates
* Be *positive*
  + Show that you believe in the abilities of yourself and your fellow classmates to succeed!
* Be *present*
  + Both physically and mentally! If you miss a class, see me and the Wiki promptly to make up missed work.
* Hateful comments and name-calling will not be tolerated in any manner. This applies to “jokes” as well as any serious comments concerning race, gender, religion, sexuality, appearance, or other personal qualities that offend or belittle another member of our community. “I was joking” or “I wasn’t being serious” are not acceptable excuses.
* Cell phones, iPods, and all other electronic devices (other than those specifically permitted by the teacher) must be turned off/silenced in class and placed in the cell phone pockets near the door.
* When given an in-class assignment, please go to work promptly and do you best!
* Pay attention when I am instructing the class. Please show me that I have your full attention by ending any side conversations and by making full eye contact.
* Help each other! During most classwork assignments, you will be allowed, and encouraged, to work with your classmates. If you feel comfortable completing an assignment, check in on your neighbor and see if he/she could use some help. If you can explain a concept, you are much more likely to retain it!
  + I encourage you to work on your homework with your classmates as well. Note that plagiarism will not be tolerated! Remember that I will collect and grade all homework so be sure you understand the material yourself and use your own words/work.

Please sign and date the following then return this sheet to the teacher by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

My child and I have read and discussed the geometry syllabus. We understand the course overview, the grading rubric, and classroom policies.

Print student name

Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student signature

Print parent/legal guardian name

Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/legal guardian signature

I acknowledge that this syllabus is subject to change within the FIRST QUARTER of the school year (before \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_).

Student initials Parent/legal guardian initials

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*\*\*Is there anything you would like me to know about your child? Please share this information below or by email.*